

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/523,980
Reply to OA dated February 24, 2009

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for marking an electric wire which includes an electrically conductive core wire and an insulating sheath, by injecting a certain amount of coloring agent to an outer face of said electric wire,

wherein said electric wire is tightened in a state where a tensile force is applied in a longitudinal direction, and said coloring agent is injected in drop form from an upper side of said electric wire ~~[[to]]~~ onto an upper part of the outer face of said electric wire to form a band as a mask on the electric wire, with the drop contacting the uppermost portion of the upper part and moving downwardly by gravity along the outer face to form the band

Claim 2 (Cancel)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method for marking an electric wire as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein said coloring agent is injected through an open end of a nozzle which is opposed to the outer face of said electric wire, and a line extending between a center of said open end and a center of said electric wire lies along a vertical direction.

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Claims 4 - 6 (Cancel)

Claim 7 (New) The method for marking an electric wire as claimed in claim 1, wherein an uppermost portion of the mark has a width larger than a width of the mark at a lowermost portion of the mark, in a longitudinal direction of the electric wire.